

1st Because the districts were formed with a view only to the [State] Interests of particular Individuals without regard to the Rights & Conveniences of the People at large, or the general Interest of the State, by a faction of tyrannical majority confederated for the purpose of reviving & perpetuating that party spirit which has so much confused & long disgraced the Legislative proceedings of this State & which I had so fondly hoped was buried in eternal oblivion by an act of the last General Assembly for fixing the Seat of Government.¹¹

2nd Because, by giving to the people living on Cape fear River *Two* Representatives for 53.763 Electors and only *Three* to the people living on Tar River, Roanoak & the waters of Albermarle Sound for 131.021 (which fully appears by the subjoined [copy of] arrangement of Counties to form the Districts as they stand in the Law with the number of Electors contained in each affixed) [2] An invidious distinction is made between fellow Citizens entitled to equal privileges to the great & manifest Injury & disparagement of the most numerous part—which is a Policy altogether incompatible with the Genius of a Republican Government & must in its consequences be productive of Feuds & animosities which real Statesmen & honest Legislators would always sedulously endeavor to avert.—

3rd Because the people immediately Interested in the commerce of the port of Washington, upon claim to Legislative attention & encouragement is founded on a more extensive commerce carried on by our own native Citizens than is carried on by Persons of that description in any other port in the State, have been so disposed of in the arrangement of Counties to form Districts of Election that they are in effect deprived of their Right of suffrage in the choice of a man to represent them in the Congress of the United States it being impossible from the paucity of their numbers in comparison with the numbers of those with whom they are joined on Roanoak River, for them to vote with effect for a man whose local situation binds [3] him to their Interest, which is so materially different from that of the People of Roanoak that the man who is in all respects a fit Representative of the one, may & must be a very unfit to Represent the other—all which was so often & so forcibly urged

¹¹He probably has reference to the political division, the West, which would use the threat of moving the capital to gain political advantage in the legislature. In fact, Blount assumes that the districting was designed to oust him from office, and in face of the intense rivalry of the two sections, he might have been right.